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GARRISON MSS.

New York Dec 10th 43.

Dear Friend and Brother,

I hope you have not attributed my long silence with regard to communications to any abatement of interest in the Anti-Slavery cause. On the contrary, its principles within my heart have worn a wider and deeper channel, and have become incorporated with my whole being. I experience a thrill of pleasure in the reflection that all the various customs, dialects, and complexions on earth belong to one people, one great family, and that whatever blessings are experienced by one part, must in some measure and at some time extend to all. The glow of patriotic pride I used to feel on account of our inventions and discoveries in art & science our system of general education and our national enterprise have given place to the purer and higher joy that all these things are tending to elevate the human race to improve and bless wasted regions of mind now lying waste and to bring together as one household band the various and distant tribes of earth.

Oh! would to Heaven I could annihilate the cruel prejudice against the Irish that exists in the minds of many in this city! It is as deep and bitter in its hate and as hellish in its narrowness and proscription as is the general prejudice against color. How my blood boils with indignation when I hear people with narrow minds whose moral visions are so obscured that they are no longer capable of judging between good and evil speaking with contempt of the generous noble minded children of Erin and the patient & forgiving African race as superior to them as an angel of light to the evil spirits who excel only in cunning. How many of the Lords of creation seem to think that negroes Irish & women are together but links in the animal chain. When I am with abolitionists of the old organization I can breathe freely as one of the human species should do. With Mr. Hopper I feel free and happy - how I do love that good old man! His wife too is so kind and motherly - since our own dear mother has gone to a brighter home I feel a special attachment to kind old ladies. I look up to them as to true friends & they seem to be inclined instinctively to spread over me the wing of affection and soothe my weary spirit to rest.

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11th Our brother-in-law, at whose house we are now visiting, is so excessively pious, that he cannot endure any letter writing in his house on 'Sabbath-day' as friend Sarle would say. I was therefore obliged to give up writing yesterday in the middle of my ideas. To my mind, it is exceedingly sinful to waste one seventh part of the time, or to make it a weariness. But so do not others think. I do not feel altogether decided whether to submit to their unjust & unrighteous requisitions, from courtesy & for the sake of peace, or to persist in what appears right to my own conscience, against the plainly expressed wishes of others. Oh! how I long for freedom! Like the Puritans, I feel willing to go into the wilderness & endure privations & hardships for the sake of freedom. I feel more than half inclined to go to a community. I am a thorough Quaker as far as all outward forms are concerned, & I cannot have patience while the Sabbath-day visage, and the family prayers, and the grace at meals are around me. And yet I know I ought to tolerate them in minds incapable of penetrating beyond the external in worship. I have several times attended the Friend's meeting in this city. The perfect quiet of their silence, & the plainness & frankness of their exhortations charmed me, & could I forget how they have treated the venerable Isaac T. Hopper & other true hearts, I should enjoy their worship far more than I now do. The New-Hampshire Rainers, as N. P. Rogers calls the Hutchinsons, have drawn crowded houses. Through the kindness of our friend Elias Smith, who is in the city, we have become acquainted with them & have attended some of their concerts. I had the pleasure of hearing an address from Wm. H. Channing before the Christian Union - it was interesting & very eloquent. Enclosed are a few hastily written lines - they are at your service. Do me the favor to give my regards to Mrs. Garrison, & the other members of your family, Mrs. Chapman, & Miss Weston, & Mr. Williams. I hope Mrs. Garrison's health has by this time much improved. I have had no means of hearing, not having seen a number of the Liberator since we came here. It would be exceedingly gratifying to me to receive a line from you, if it is not asking too much among your numerous engagements. But, we feel so lonely here so shut out from anti-slavery intelligence, & almost entirely from anti-slavery society, that a few words from you would be like cold water to a thirsty soul. If you can find it convenient to write, direct, if you please, to 167 Division St, to the Anti-Slavery Office as Maria Weston Chapman's sister wishes to be remembered to you.

Yours, Harriet W. Hayden.

[To William Lloyd Garrison.]